FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 APRIL 1985

Sudan

A post in the new government has been reserved for southern rebel leader John Garang, Armed Forces Commander General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab announced at a news conference reported by AFP. He also disclosed that he has telephoned Garang to make arrangements for a meeting to discuss the southern problem, according to Omdurman radio. Meanwhile, as contacts continued for the formation of a government, representatives of Sudanese political parties in London spoke of "deep-seated differences" between unions and parties over the composition of the new cabinet, KUNA noted.

As for foreign affairs, Siwar al-Dhahab stated during his news conference that he has exchanged messages with Soviet, Ethiopian, and Libyan leaders to improve relations which "deteriorated" under the previous regime, Omdurman radio reported. He said Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's response was "positive," according to AFP.

Israel

Arriving in Cairo, Minister 'Ezer Weizman said his discussions would include the return of the Egyptian envoy to Israel, the Taba problem, the Jordanian-PLO accord, and U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's mission, MENA reported. As for the possible summit meeting between Peres and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, Jerusalem radio reported that the two leaders recently exchanged messages in this regard.

PLO Affairs

The PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Central Committee began a session of joint meetings in Baghdad under Yasir 'Arafat's chairmanship, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. The discussions focused on southern Lebanon and recent political developments, including U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's tour.

A Riyadh radio commentary said the current PLO meetings in Baghdad are particularly important because of current diplomatic developments including Murphy's tour, which "observers" regard as the beginning of a U.S. move to deal "in a practical way" with the recent developments affecting the Palestinian issue.

The Abu Dhabi paper *AL-ITTIHAD* contended that the PLO and Jordan have not yet agreed on the names of Palestinian representatives for a joint delegation. The paper, which cited Palestinian sources, also said that during 'Arafat's recent talks in Amman, he was assured by Jordanian officials that if a Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement takes place it will be coordinated with the PLO.

Lebanon

The Phalangist Lebanese Forces continued to shell residential areas in Sidon despite the arrival in the city of a Lebanese Army unit, according to reports by Beirut radio. Security sources cited by the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio spoke of a bombardment with fragmentation and phosphorous shells that caused over 40 casualties. Nevertheless, a Lebanese Forces official cited by AFP subsequently announced that the Christian Militia had begun withdrawing men and artillery from the area as a good-will gesture aimed at ending the fighting. A Lebanese Forces Executive Committee statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio expressed "surprise" at Prime Minister Rashid Karami's statements holding the Lebanese Forces responsible for the fighting in Sidon. The statement accused Palestinian and Muslim groups of starting the violence and obstructing the Lebanese Army's deployment.

Meanwhile, Israeli Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche reaffirmed Israel's willingness to resume negotiations with Lebanon on security arrangements following the IDF's withdrawal, Jerusalem radio noted.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad, in a speech to a youth federation conference broadcast by Damascus television, praised the example set by the "martyrs" of the Lebanese national resistance, "until it defeats the forces of aggression." As for the Palestinians, Al-Asad expressed confidence that they will "sever the hand that signs the writ of capitulation."

Tunisia

As a result of a 10-11 April judicial strike, Justice Minister Ridha Ben 'Ali announced in a statement carried by Tunis radio that President Habib Bourguiba had dissolved the Society of Young Judges. Additionally, he suspended a group of young judges from the bench and referred them to a "disciplinary council."

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BAKHTAR on Pakistan's 'Fraud of a Referendum'

LD160555 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 15, BAKHTAR: A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

The new wave of anti-Afghan propagandist hysteria has loudly reverberated in Islamabad. Pakistan wants new billions of dollars as U.S. military aid in a bid to act as the region's policeman brandishing an American truncheon.

Ziaul Haq staged his fraud of a referendum to stay in power for another five years. No less false elections followed to put up democratic scenery around the same old military regime. Among other things, Mohammad Khan Junejo, one of the wealthiest landowners in Sind, has been "elected" prime minister personally by Ziaul Haq.

Washington was enraptured by the "election." It welcomed "Pakistan's progress towards democracy" and promised all-round support to the new government "which made the first step to establish a civil administration". Meanwhile that country is still too far off not only from democracy but even from guaranteeing Pakistani people's elementary human rights.

In his first public statement as prime minister, M. Junejo voiced support for Afghan counter-revolutionaries promising further aid to anti-Afghan groupings. He thanked the United States effusively.

The newspaper *WASHINGTON POST* said in the meantime that the United States needed Afghanistan as a bulwark against the Soviet Union, or at least as a trap for it. The paper called the undeclared war against the DRA "the most sacred cause on the Capitol Hill" and that war needs the territory of Pakistan, instead of an imaginary "democratization" of the regime there.

True, M. Junejo said his government would keep trying to solve the "Afghan problem" through a dialogue, but Ziaul Haq said so more than once while acting as told by Washington each time.

The proposals of the DRA Government on a political settlement around Afghanistan are only too well known. Progress in this hinges on the stance of the United States and its allies, Pakistan in particular. Regretfully the chance of scenery in Islamabad does not testify to a change in its policies as yet.

Free Tribes Statement Rebuffs Radio Propaganda

LD142311 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] As all the world public and especially the people of Afghanistan, Pakistan and the free tribes are aware, since a few months ago the military regime of Pakistan and U.S. imperialism, in order to impose their foul actions in the free tribal areas, have begun by threat and aggression and by constructing and creating trenches and roads to curtail the freedom of this free and historic land. In line with this, they have occupied the Wazir Baka Khel region, attacked the house of Nasib Khan Tori Khel and killed him together with women and children. They surrounded the house of Yarpacha Mohmand with tanks and martyred him and his friends on the door steps of his house. After this they destroyed the house of Malek Wali Khan Koky Khel with tanks and artillery and have martyred his friends.

As a result of these incidents all free tribes have become angry and have risen, from Bajawar to Wazirestan, to struggle to protect and safeguard the freedom of their territory and their honor.

They have harassed the military regime of Pakistan to such an extent that it has been forced to apologize and propose a tribal assembly. However, on the other hand the deceitful military regime of Pakistan and its imperialist American masters and their radios distort the struggles of the free tribes protecting their freedom and honor and have made allegations about these martyrs and leaders and show the political and rightful struggle of the free tribes to the world public in a distorted manner.

Not only the political personalities and the learned people of Pakistan but all the informed circles of the world are aware that the propaganda of the military regime of Pakistan are groundless, and no one pays attention to them.

Recently, the union of the patriotic and republican intellectuals of the free tribes, known as the tribal unity, published a statement through its Khyber Agency office which sheds light on the subject and ministers a crushing rebuff to the lie spreadings of the Voice of America, Pakistani, BBC, Deutsche Welle and other radios; the text of this is hereby presented to the viewers, listeners and readers:

Statement: It is a political issue not one of heroin. For a long time the Government of Pakistan has interfered in our free and independent identity, as a result of which anger and unrest is intensifying among the tribal peoples from day to day. When the free tribes protest the oppressive policies of the Government of Pakistan, the Government of Pakistan, in order to silence the protest by using forces and pressure, sends military forces to the tribal regions and bombards the houses of the tribal leaders which has resulted in loss of life and property.

In addition, the government, through foreign propaganda sources and agencies has begun slander and propaganda alleging that the Government of Pakistan has destroyed the heroin factories so as to defame the honorable tribes in this way. In addition to this they have made groundless criminal allegations against the political leaders of the free tribes and have called them rebels which is a ridiculous and unfortunate allegation.

It is the duty of the tribal unity to make this fact known to all nations of the world and especially to the people of Pakistan, that the current tense situation in the Khyber Agency is unrelated to the problem of heroin, but is the political struggle of the tribal people against the policy of imperialism and colonialism, begun for protecting the freedom and securing the basic and human rights of the free tribes.

We request all the people of free tribes and especially of the Khyber Agency to unite and to achieve these demands as soon as possible:

1. The Government of Pakistan should avoid using force.

2. It should guarantee that it will not interfere in the free and independent identity of the free tribes.

3. The demands of the tribal peoples should be accepted.

4. A neutral board should be appointed to assess these incidents and also the officers who are guilty should be punished in front of people.

From the tribal unity of Khyber Agency.

Mujahidin Urged To Defend Paktia, Paktika Provinces
LD152135 (Clandestine) Voice of Afghanistan in Dari 1130 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Announcement by Islamic Alliance of Mujahidin of Afghanistan — date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

"And slacken not in following up the enemy. If you are suffering hardships, they are suffering similar hardships; but you have hope from God, while they have none. And God is full of knowledge and wisdom." [verse from Koran]

With the passing of every day, the mujahid nation of Afghanistan in its sacred jihad and liberating struggle against the criminal superpower of our times is creating immortal epics.

The heroic and militant nation of Afghanistan by destroying the shaky trenches of the forces of wrong is forging ahead speedily toward establishing a powerful Islamic government; and the unsuccessful offensive of red imperialism is heading for certain defeat and complete disgrace by the disintegration of its barbaric and criminal forces.

The plundering forces of the Russian Red Empire, which have spent the past 5 years in darkness and under the continous siege of the faithful mujahidin, are now beginning the 6th year of their shameless offensive under the crushing and decisive blows of the martyr-nurturing nation of Afghanistan which will be the year of disgrace for world communism, the year of humiliation for social imperialism and finally the year of certain defeat of its aggressive forces.

The arrogant and crazy rulers of the criminal red imperialism, who until now have tolerated the successive defeats of their forces together with heavy economic expenditure, now want to send fresh forces to various parts of the country to commit further crimes in the last decisive year of their unsuccessful aggression before the complete disintegration of their military units.

In line with this, the criminal enemy, in order to attack the proud trenches of the Jihad in Paktia and Paktika has brought thousands of their troops to Gardez.

Although our vigilant and aware nation and the guards of the bloodstained trenches of Jihad are ready at any moment to defend the liberated areas, all heroic mujahidin of the trenches of Paktia and Paktika are informed that by creating revolutionary order and unity in their ranks they should attack the enemy forces before they can leave their headquarters and positions. With bravery and heroism they should hold high the banner of Islam — this symbol of honor and freedom of the mujahid nation of Afghanistan — just as in the other parts of the country.

Self-sacrificing and heroic mujahidin of the bloodstained trenches of Paktia and Paktika:

Do not allow the bloodthirsty Russians to take the initiative in this confrontation.

Crush and repulse the fresh Russian troops in Gardez just like the other disintegrated Russian units.

Courageously defend your honorable trenches, roads and the supply routes of the mujahidin convoys in these regions.

Do not allow the defeated and humiliated enemy to raise its bent head in your martyr-nurturing country.

All militant mujahidin of the regions surrounding Paktia and Paktika are informed that with continuous crushing attacks on the supply convoys, military headquarters and security posts of Russians and their servants in your region, in order to defend the proud trenches of these provinces, do not let the enemy breathe a sigh of relief.

Courageous mujahidin of Paktia and Paktika Provinces:

Attack the shaky trenches of the enemy with one voice and with one command and with united and revolutionary ranks, and courageously defend your belief, people and homeland against the offensive of the barbaric Russian aggressors.

Be confident that victory and success and honor are yours in this path of Jihad and resistance.

Forward toward the complete destruction of the shaky trenches of world communism with unity and revolutionary discipline.

Long live the heroic mujahidin — these rightful defenders of Islam, nation, peace and freedom.

Death to the supporters of world colonialism.

Gandhi on Steps To Encourage Foreign Investment

BK151158 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The prime minister has urged foreign investors to participate actively in India's march to high technology areas. Inaugurating a roundtable on India organized by the world economic forum in New Delhi this morning, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, however, made it clear that the participation will not be at the cost of Indian industry and its main objectives of equality and social justice.

The prime minister identified energy, power, communications, transport, and high technology area concerning agriculture as potential fields for foreign investment. Mr Gandhi said India offers a massive market, assured political stability, consistent industrial policy, and a broad industrial base which could be an ideal environment for foreign investors. Pointing out that excessive protection for domestic industry could be harmful in the long run, Mr Gandhi said India had opened many sectors to foreign competition and more would be opened in the near future to improve quality. Mr Gandhi referred to the new import-export policy, restructuring of the direct taxes system and single-window operations for the industries.

Allaying fears about red tapism, he said efforts are on to make bureaucrats more dynamic. Despite tension and trauma which the country had been through recently, it had emerged stronger and stable. Mr Gandhi said India's good record in dealing with foreign companies provides good scope for foreign companies to work with us for mutual benefit. The prime minister said the attainment of self-reliance and the public sector will continue to be the prime objective for industrial development of the country [sentence as heard]. The policy of mixed economy has been adopted so that both the public and the private sectors derive the maximum benefit from each other.

New Zealand's Lange Visits Delhi, Meets Gandhi

Received by Gandhi

BK150745 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The prime minister of New Zealand, Mr David Russell Lange, accompanied by his wife, arrived in New Delhi today on a short visit. He was received at the airport by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi; the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Khurshid Alam Khan; and other dignitaries. Mr Lange later called on the president, Giani Zail Singh, at Rashtrapati Bhavan [president's house]. The New Zealand prime minister is leaving for Singapore in the afternoon.

Comments on Talks With Gandhi

BK151018 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Excerpt] The visiting prime minister of New Zealand, Mr David Russell Lange, had wide-ranging talks with Prime Minister Mr Rajiv Gandhi both on the international and bilateral issues. Speaking to newsmen in New Delhi a short while ago, Mr Lange said the talks covered Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, the situation in Punjab, and development of trade between the two countries. The issue of disarmament also figured prominently in the hour-long talks which Mr Lange described as very useful.

Asked about New Zealand's stand on the 6-nation appeal for nuclear disarmament, Mr Lange said his country welcomes the appeal. New Zealand is committed firmly to all forms of disarmament. It is ridiculous that the superpowers should spend billions of dollars on stockpiling nuclear weapons while starvation and misery stalks in many countries, particularly in Africa.

Asked to comment on the British prime minister's observation that it is not practicable to declare the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, Mr Lange said he holds a different view. He pointed out that all nations have agreed to keep Antarctica free from nuclear weapons. Similar understanding can be reached about other areas.

On the Sri Lanka situation, he said he shared the concern of India over the recent developments in the country. He appreciated India's efforts to improve its relations with her neighbors.

Departs for Singapore

BK151422 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] India and New Zealand have agreed to expand and diversify their trade and economic cooperation. Strengthening of bilateral relations was one of the major issues that figured during the discussion between the prime minister of New Zealand, Mr David Russell Lange, and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi today. Before leaving for Singapore at the end of his 7-hour visit, Mr Lange addressed a news conference. Mr Lange said that he attached great importance to improving trade with India which has a wide industrial base and considerable technical manpower. New Zealand can import from India many industrial goods like machine goods, textiles, and watches and can supply to India dairy products and newsprints. Mr Lange said that he has invited Mr Rajiv Gandhi to visit New Zealand.

Senior Akali Leader Resigns From Sikh Committee

BK151637 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] A senior Akali leader and member of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh Temple Management] Committee [SGPC] Mr Jeevan Singh Umranangal, has resigned from the membership of the SGPC. In a press statement in Jullundur he said he submitted the resignation because of its failure to stop preaching hatred from within, what he called, the precinct of the religious places. He appealed to the Akali Dal to isolate itself from the extremist and separatist elements.

Meanwhile, the former chief minister of Punjab, Mr Darbara Singh, said in Jullundur that the prime minister is keen on resolving the Punjab tangle. He asked the Akali Dal to come to the negotiating table to end the stalemate.

4 Killed, 5 Injured in Ahmedabad Police Shooting

BK160323 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] In Ahmedabad, four persons died and five were injured late last night in some areas of the walled city when the police fired 41 rounds to disperse violent mobs indulging in looting of shops, arson and stone throwing. The disturbances suddenly erupted last night at the end of a quiet day. The police resorted to firing after they failed to quell the violent mob with teargas shells; 25 persons including some policemen were injured in last night's violent incidents of whom 12 are still under treatment in hospital. Indefinite curfew has been declared in all the areas under the jurisdiction of the Gaikwad and (Stodia) police stations and some areas in the Karanj police station. The authorities also decided to cancel relaxation of curfew this morning announced earlier in the Sadaspur area.

Meanwhile, the union home secretary, Mr R.D. Pradhan, had discussions last night with the state chief minister, Mr Madhavsinh Solanki; state home minister, Mr Amarsinh Chaudhari, and high civil officials at Gandhinagar about the law and order situation in the state in the wake of the antireservation [of facilities for backward classes] agitation. During the discussions the state government requested for additional CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] [word indistinct] following the withdrawal of the CRPF personnel earlier called from Maharashtra and Rajasthan. Mr Pradhan has since returned to New Delhi.

Charges Filed Against 19 Accused in Espionage Case

HK151518 Hong Kong AFP in English 1452 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] New Delhi, April 15 (AFP) — Six diplomats, two each from France, Poland and East Germany, were believed to have been involved in the spy scandal which rocked India two months ago, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported today.

Secret official documents were supplied to these diplomats by the alleged kingpin of the spy ring, Coomar Narayan and the Bombay-based industrial firm for which he worked, according to the charge sheet filed in court today against 19 accused. PTI said that three of the six diplomats left India shortly after the spy network was revealed without giving their identity.

Alain Bolley, deputy military attache in the French Embassy, Otto Wicker, an East German diplomat and an unnamed Polish diplomat were expelled immediately after the spy ring was bared on January 17, PTI said.

A total of 19 Indians, including 14 officials working in various sensitive government departments, one retired government official and four businessmen were arrested in the country's biggest ever spy scandal.

The charge sheet said that the spy ring had passed on highly classified documents relating to the country's defence, commerce, finance and external affairs, PTI reported.

The accused were stated to have handed over top secret defence contracts to the Soviet Union, manoeuvres of Army divisions in sensitive border areas, and secret intelligence codes, the agency added.

The 2,100-page charge sheet along with a list of 188 witnesses including Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's former principal secretary P.C. Alexander, was filed in camera in the court of the additional chief metropolitan magistrate Bharat Bhushan, PTI said.

Yogesh Maneklal, managing director of Maneklal Industries, who employed Mr. Narayan, was understood to be cited in the charge sheet as the "brain" behind the whole operation starting in 1979, the agency added. Mr. Maneklal is among the four businessmen arrested for their alleged parts in the affair.

The charge sheet reportedly said the ring had infiltrated the prime minister's Secretariat in early 1982 and had collected documents from various ministries. It detailed two distinct parallel conspiracies, PTI said.

The first conspiracy involved Mr. Maneklal and Mr. Narayan procuring documents through accused government officials including those in the Secretariats of Mr. Gandhi and President Zail Singh.

The second conspiracy involved an employee of the Commerce Ministry, H.N. Chaturvedi, purchasing the documents and passing them on to two other accused businessmen B.K. Aggarwal and Ashok Kumar Jaithka, PTI said.

The charge sheet reportedly said that once the ring started operating in 1979, the turnover of Maneklal Industries rose sharply.

The charge sheet against the 19 accused and was filed by the Delhi police special branch chief, R.S. Sahaye under the official secret acts, the report said.

The magistrate directed that the accused be given copies of the documents on April 18 when all of them will appear before the court on the expiry of their remand. PTI said that the dates of the hearing would be announced then.

Junejo on Elections, Afghanistan, Ties With India

BK151621 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has said that the federal government will endeavor to bring Baluchistan up to par with other provinces around the country. For this purpose the province will receive an increased share of development assistance. He told this to newsmen this afternoon at Quetta airport at the end of his 2-day visit to Baluchistan.

Answering a question, the prime minister said the Constitution clearly defines his powers and there is no ambiguity or confusion in this connection. As the chief executive he enjoys all powers defined in the Constitution.

About the revival of political parties, he said this issue will be considered in the National Assembly because a decision on this matter and on all other important issues can only be made by the National Assembly. Answering another question, the prime minister said the elections have been held, the people have elected their representatives, federal and provincial governments have been constituted and a democratic process has begun. Now it is up to the leaders of the defunct political parties to decide on their positive role in connection with the complete revival of the democratic process in the country. We respect leaders of all political parties and their advice will be welcomed. About the constitutional amendments, he said the president has empowered the National Assembly to review the constitutional amendments, change them or bring about additional amendments if the members of the National Assembly so desired.

On the Afghanistan problem, he said Pakistan's policy is very clear on this problem. Pakistan has participated in the indirect talks on Afghanistan and it will continue to follow the same line.

Answering a question on relations with India, the prime minister said the Indian foreign secretary met him recently in Islamabad and he has felt that there has been a positive change in the Indian attitude. India wants to cooperate with Pakistan. He added that the improvement in relations between the two countries is the need of the hour.

Ministers Announce New Economic Policy Decisions

BK151224 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Excerpts] The Economic Coordination Committee of the Cabinet at its meeting in Islamabad today took a number of important policy decisions to stimulate the next phase of industrialization of the country. Announcing the decisions at a news conference this afternoon, the minister for finance and planning, Dr Mahbubul Haq, said these decisions have been taken under the guidance of the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo. They will help arrest the serious deterioration in the balance of payments position. They are also intended to speedily redress various imbalances in the economic system and to liberate the creative energies of our people both in the private and public sectors. The finance minister said in order to streamline exports and import remittances, a scheme of compensatory rebates, which was introduced in 1978, has been totally revamped. Rebates have been increased for a large number of items.

The production minister, Mr Mohammad Khaqan Abbasi, who was also present at the news conference, told a questioner that the government is (?going) to denationalize or hand over the industries to a set of professional managers so that they could run these industries efficiently. Also present at the news conference were the minister for railways, Mr Abdul Ghafoor Khan of Hoti; the industries minister, Mr Zafar Ali Shah; and the minister for commerce, Mr Salim Saifullah.

DAWN on Planned Barter Accord With Bulgaria

GF151403 Karachi DAWN in English 9 Apr 85 Economic and Business Review Supplement p 2

[Text] Lahore, April 8: The Governments of Pakistan and Bulgaria have agreed to sign a barter protocol to expand trade between them.

According to Mr. Peter Petrove of the Bulgarian Embassy, who visited Lahore on April 7 and met business representatives, a new barter agreement between the two countries would be signed next month.

In addition, Bulgaria has proposed turnkey projects on credit in the private sector. Under this scheme not only the machinery but complete projects would be supplied especially regarding light engineering and agro-industries.

Full machinery green houses, agricultural implements and wood work machines are some of the other areas in which negotiations are under way.

Steps will also be taken to redress the trade balance, which is currently tilted heavily in favour of Bulgaria. Pakistan is preparing a list of items it can sell to Bulgaria at competitive rates.

Agricultural Cooperation Committee Meets

BK151216 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The Committee on Agricultural Cooperation of the Economic Cooperation Organization [ECO] concluded its 2-day deliberations in Islamabad today. The meeting was attended by delegations of Pakistan, Iran, and Turkey and the secretary general of the ECO Secretariat, Mr (Bejid Toreman).

The committee agreed to the proposals of cooperation by identifying areas to exploit the commercial, industrial, and technical aspects of collaboration in the fields of agriculture, animal husbandry, soil water technology, fisheries, and forestry. It agreed to develop the ECO agriculture center for research extension and training. In this regard, the national agricultural research center in Islamabad, Pakistan's central cotton committee at Karachi, and the forest institute at Peshawar were identified for such training and information. It also agreed to explore possibilities for cooperation in the fields of land conservation and irrigation, including small dams.

It was further decided that respective member states should submit concrete action program by the end of next month to ECO's Secretariat for implementation of the programs identified at the meeting. The recommendations of the four technical committees, which met in Ankara last month and in Islamabad this month, will be approved by the planning council of the ECO scheduled to be held in the 1st week of July in Tehran.

Traffic Accident Leads to Karachi Student Riot

BK160255 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] A press note has been issued by the district magistrate of Karachi West on the sad incident that happened yesterday in which some women college students were run over by two speeding minibuses and as a result, one student died on the spot while the condition of the other, who is in the hospital, is serious. According to the press note, some students in the area were infuriated with this incident and they damaged several minibuses and buses. The note added that the police had to intervene to disperse the violent mob. Traffic came to a standstill in Nizimabad area for some time. However, it was restored due to timely intervention by the local administration.

The press note said that the drivers of the minibuses involved in the incident have been arrested and cases have been filed against them. A judicial inquiry has been ordered to identify factors responsible for the incident and for immediate hearing of the cases.

DAWN Editorial Hails Visit by India's Bhandari

GF121100 Karachi DAWN in English 8 Apr 85 p 7

[Editorial: "A Good Beginning"]

[Text] The two-day talks in Islamabad which have left the Indian foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, "reassured and satisfied", mark a good beginning towards the revived effort for normalising Indi-Pakistan relations. The parleys at Islamabad appear to have covered as much ground as was possible in the given circumstances. But both Mr Bhandari and the Pakistani spokesman have been cautious in summing up the results of the current exchanges.

Mr Bhandari would not go beyond saying that there was a genuine desire on the part of the leaders of the two countries "to explore all areas of cooperation".

The joint statement, issued at the conclusion of the visit and the remarks made at the press conference held by Mr Bhandari, made no reference to the Pakistani proposal for a no-war pact and the Indian suggestion for a treaty of friendship and cooperation.

By way of explaining the background to what appears to be an inclination to hasten slowly, Mr Bhandari said that the past "has been governed by an atmosphere of suspicion, confrontation and often hostilities" and so "a step-by-step" approach would be in order now. One may or may not agree with him entirely. The start of the dialogue itself would, however, be welcome to all those who have been unhappy over the lack of appropriate communication between the two countries all these months.

An abrupt end to the on-going dialogue came last summer when India called off the secretary-level talks in mid-July and the ministerial commission session in August. This came on the heels of the much publicised peace mission of the then Indian Information Minister Bhagat and the 'inflight dialogue' between the foreign ministers of the two countries as fellow travellers to a SARC [South Asian Regional Cooperation] moot. There were many reasons offered by Indian publicists for this surprising move. There was a hint about disagreements on the unexplained exit of two employees of the Indian Embassy. Moreover, India suspected that Pakistan was involved in the Sikh trouble in the Punjab, although this was repeatedly denied at the highest level here. Pakistan's refusal to hand over the Sikh hijackers to India also became a contentious issue between them although later Pakistan decided to put them on trial.

As Mr Bhandari has aptly remarked, the "allegations and accusations belong to 1984 and it is 1985 now". Probably, both sides have decided to restart with a clean slate. This should be taken as a happy augury.

Fortunately, the negotiators on both sides have much to build on. According to competent sources "a consolidated text" of the rival drafts of the no-war pact and the treaty of peace and friendship had almost been finalised last year. It was to be designated as the treaty of renunciation of force, promotion of peace and good-neighbourliness and cooperation.

Further progress should now be possible. On its part, Pakistan has also tried to reassure India in regard to Islamabad's efforts to fill gaps in its defence preparedness. President Ziaul Haq has made an open-ended offer to India of receiving a high-powered Indian military team in Islamabad to assess this country's defence requirements and even to suggest a level to meet its legitimate needs. As there is no alternative to peace and good-neighbourliness in the region, it is imperative for the leaders of the two countries to move in that direction in the interest of the millions inhabiting this subcontinent. In this context, it is to be hoped that Sahabzada Yaqub Khan's visit to the Indian capital later this month will produce even more meaningful results.

NAWA-E WAQT Describes New Ministers' Tasks

GF151005 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 7 Apr 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Provincial Chief Ministers — A High Position and a Stringent Test"]

[Excerpts] The nomination of the chief ministers of the provinces has now been completed. Sessions are to be held in the provinces in which speakers and deputy speakers will be chosen and confidence motions will be discussed. Thus some progress will be made in the delegation of power to the elected representatives on the provincial level, as the federal level has already been taken care of.

The nominated chief ministers will receive votes of confidence from their assemblies, but their real test begins when they have to form their cabinets, and later when their performance is judged. They may not face any difficulties in assuming charge and taking control under the aegis of martial law, but there is a wide range of problems on the national and provincial levels. For 8 years the administrative machinery has been moving ahead without being answerable to anyone, but now it will have to keep informed the newly elected representatives and ministers who have to fulfill the expectations of those who have elected them.

Because of the partyless elections, the restoration of democracy started in an atmosphere characterized by those splinter groups that cropped up after the elections on an individual or provincial basis.

Now that the phase of setting up ministries has begun, the nature of these groups will change and a new criterion of support and opposition will emerge on the basis of getting positions or being deprived of them in the ministries, which will become evident in a month when the assemblies meet for the budget session.

In any case, it is clear that those who have been appointed as chief ministers in the provinces are not merely getting high posts but are also in for a stringent test. They will have to work tactfully and with dedication. They have not only accepted high posts but have also positioned themselves on the stand before the public and are are answerable to them.

At present they are basking in the adulation and congratulations, but tomorrow they will be asked to present a report on their performance to all.

Afghan Colonel, Police Officer Reportedly Defect

GF121300 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 7 Apr 85 p 4

[Report by staff correspondent]

[Text] Peshawar, April 6: An Afghan Army Colonel and a police officer of the Babrak regime have defected from their Government and taken shelter in Pakistan.

The Afghan Information and Documentation Centre sources said in Peshawar on Saturday, the Colonel, Mir Hissamuddin Mohtashemy was working in the Publication Department of the Ministry of Defence and police officer was in charge of criminal section in the Samkani District of Paktia Province. Quoting Colonel Mohtashemy, the Afghan Information and Documentation Centre sources said that the Army printing press is controlled by six Soviet advisors and all the Army publications are brought out under their control. The Colonel says that a number of Iranian nationals who were members of Tudeh Communist Party have reached Kabul and were co-operating with the Babrak Regime in publications and Culture. He added that eight members of the Iranian Tudeh Communist Party are working in *HAQIQAT-E SARBAZ* which is the publicity organ of the Ministry of Defence in Afghanistan.

The Police Officer, Barialay, told the centre that a group of eighty-five men, including himself, had returned to Kabul after one-year training in Soviet Union where they had undergone military training. He said that this group was sent to Paktia Province to fight in the battle fields along with the Army.

BANGLADESH

India's Bhandari Holds Talks, Comments on Issues

BK160157 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The foreign secretaries of Bangladesh and India met in Dhaka this afternoon. The meeting, which lasted nearly 2 hours, discussed all unresolved bilateral issues. Indian Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari later told newsmen that they had fruitful and constructive exchanges. The talks will continue tomorrow.

Earlier, the Indian foreign secretary arrived in Dhaka on a 2-day visit to discuss the unresolved issues between Bangladesh and India. Talking to newsmen at the airport, Bhandari said that he is undertaking the visit at the instruction of the Indian prime minister to improve relations with neighboring countries. The visit is aimed at working out unresolved problems, knowing each other better, and promoting understanding between the two countries. He said that there is no specific agenda for the talks and he will bring up a wide range of subjects for discussion.

Answering a question, he termed the Ganges issue as the most complicated one.

In reply to a question as to how (?sincere) India is in resolving the issue of the barbed wire fence along the Bangladesh border, Bhandari said that according to Indian press reports, there is a possibility of postponing work on this project.

He said that Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government is eager to improve relations with neighboring countries. The issue of developing cooperative relations in the South Asian region is not only a bilateral matter, but is essential for the collective interest. He said that understanding should be attained through discussion on issues between the two countries, and this will pave the way for collective and constructive cooperation.

Delhi Report on Talks

BK160349 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] India and Bangladesh have reassured each other of their earnest desire to resolve outstanding issues and work for a friendly climate of cooperation. This was stated by the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, after he had talks with his Bangladeshi counterpart, Mr Faruq Ahmed Chowdhury, and the adviser for foreign affairs, Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, in Dhaka yesterday.

Mr Bhandari told our Dhaka correspondent that during his talks both sides agreed that neither country will gain from confrontation, but will benefit only by constructive cooperation. The foreign secretary said they discussed bilateral matters including the erection of barbed wire fencing all along Indo-Bangladesh border.

They also exchanged views on international issues. He also conveyed to them his impressions about his visit to other neighboring countries. Mr Bhandari disclosed that the Bangladeshi foreign adviser described the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi's initiative to improve relations as constructive.

Mr Bhandari will have talks with President General Ershad and his two deputy martial law administrators today before leaving Dhaka this afternoon.

SRI LANKA

Hameed on Political Solution to Ethnic Problems

BK151103 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Shahul Hameed, has said that a political solution to the ethnic problem should not only satisfy the Tamils but also the Sinhalese. He was speaking after inaugurating a new school building of the (Kasavatiya) Muslim Vidialaya [school] in the Central Province yesterday. The government does not dismiss the need for a political solution. In fact, the president — without anybody's suggestion — summoned a round table conference on his own initiative and examined this possibility for over 1 year. This is because the government understood that a political solution was necessary for the current crisis. But the minister stressed that it should stand a test of time and, if so, it should have the approval of both the Sinhala and Tamil communities.

Mr Hameed noted that a political solution should be placed before the people and tested. He asked how such an exercise could be undertaken in the north where the terrorists have sought to replace the ballot by the bullet. Today the people in the north are not in a free environment to exercise their democratic rights and express their opinion on any solution that may be reached. This is why, he added, that the government has correctly maintained that a climate conducive for the exercise of democratic functions and process must be established before any serious political solution could be evolved.

AFP: Calm Returns After Tamil-Muslim Clashes

HK160616 Hong Kong AFP in English 0607 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Colombo, April 16 (AFP) — Calm returned to the Eastern Province today after Tamil-Muslim clashes left at least 13 dead and hundreds of houses razed, high-ranking security sources said. The sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that no fresh incidents had been reported today after the lifting of the 14-hour curfew clamped on the Akkaraipattu area where the first clashes where reported Thursday.

However reports said Muslims in Valachenai, north of the provincial capital Batticaloa, today started a demonstration against Tamil separatists and they alleged had sparked the clashes.

Tamil and Muslim parliamentarians were today to meet security forces and civil administrators to map out measures for peace in the province five days after trouble flared with widespread arson and looting, political sources said.

Joint Operations Command (JOC) sources denied reports that 30 people had died in the violence or that around 700 homes of Muslims and Tamils had been burned down.

"We are definite that 13 people including eight terrorists died since the clashes began. Perhaps one or two others might have died, but there is no evidence of even this. Thirty killed is an utter exaggeration," the sources said. Police investigators in Batticaloa, 64 kilometers (40 miles) north of Akkaraipattu, confirmed this assessment. The sources said between 200 and 300 homes, some of them thatched huts, could have been destroyed.

Tamil separatists allegedly shot dead three Muslims, two of them at prayer in the northwestern Mannar area early last week, triggering protest demonstrations by Muslims in Akkaraipattu, security sources said.

Armed militants yesterday led a Tamil attack on some Muslim shops and homes in Akkaraipattu after the curfew was lifted, the sources added. Police opened fire to disperse the crowd of about 200 Tamils and the militants fled, they said.

The sources said many people had fled their homes in fear of intercommunal attacks, with large numbers taking shelter in religious places and schools.

Trade union sources yesterday said 10,000 people had fled their homes.

Official Denies Jayewardene Reference to UK Troops

BK151627 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] The Sri Lankan high commission in New Delhi says President Jayewardene did not refer to the stationing of British troops in the island in his banquet speech given in honor of Mrs Thatcher. A statement denying such press reports was issued today.

Reacting to the press reports, the Communist Party of India said that such moves will endanger security in the subcontinent. It called for resumption of political talks with the Tamils for a negotiated settlement of the ethnic issue.

A REUTER report from Colombo says that at least 30 people have been killed and more than several hundred homes set ablaze in 5 days of group clashes in Sri Lanka's Eastern Province. REUTER said that over 10,000 people have fled their homes and found shelter in refugee camps.

Tamils Suspected of Training in India Arrested

HK151152 Hong Kong AFP in English 1114 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Colombo, April 15 (AFP) — The Sri Lankan Navy has arrested 33 Tamil militants returning from suspected training operations in India, official sources said here today.

The militants were crossing the narrow Palk Strait between the two countries late Saturday in four groups when they were intercepted, the sources said, adding that the 33 were handed over to the police. The sources denied reports that shooting had broken out during the interceptions.

New Delhi has denied past accusations from Colombo that militant Tamils were being trained in India. The militants are waging a violent campaign for a separate state in the country's north and east.

Khomeyni Describes Purpose of Universities

LD161233 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Mr Iraj Fazel, minister of culture and higher education, together with that ministry's under secretaries met with Imam Khomeyni the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran this morning. At this meeting, first Mr Fazel gave a detailed report of the ministry's activities in connection with the affairs of universities and education in the country. Then Imam Khomeyni delivered the following speech:

[Announcer read] In the name of God the compassionate, the merciful. I thank you gentlemen for the positive steps you have taken. I hope you are aware that all problems in Iran start in the universities. Our universities used to have bitter attitudes that were not easily remedied. A serious attitude and selflessness are needed to fulfill the true meaning of a university. Universities were not allowed to discuss issues of interest to Islam and Iran; praying was looked down upon there. A university that was the origin of all our problems could not be called a university. You should try to correct our universities. To put our universities right we should keep an eye on our children during their school years since if children receive the right education in the early years, the burden of our universities will be lighter.

I hope that with the efforts of the lecturers and teachers, when a child finishes his or her education he or she will be a fully committed person. A person who will understand that he or she should serve the country and should not be interested in pleasing foreign countries. You are aware that most of the people who have gone through a university, although some of them are religious, believe that Iran should be supervised by foreign countries. They claim that Iran cannot run its own affairs. Despite all pressures, Iran has guarded itself and has exported its revolution to other countries and has awakened other nations. Iran can run its own affairs.

We should try to run our universities according to the wishes of the masses of the people. If a nation demands something one cannot force it to accept the opposite. You see that our million-strong masses have changed. They are now aware that they should rise against foreign powers. Universities should be centers for promoting such an attitude. But, unfortunately, this has not been the case up to now. I hope that with the efforts of you gentlemen and that of the Supreme Council for Cultural Revolution we will have universities that belong to our people and not to foreigners. We should educate our youth in such a way as to make Muslims in other countries understand that education has worked here. You should realize that if a university works properly and presents itself to the world, if the people of the world come to realize that Iranian universities work to benefit Iranians and not foreigners, inevitably, Muslims will come here from other countries. Knowledge alone is no good. Knowledge and commitment together can raise its head to the state where it does not need others and can raise its head high before God. Of course, this entails problems and unpleasantries.

Anyone who embarks on a positive course will confront opposition, not everyone will be pleased. Even justice might be unpleasant to some but one who pursues justice and works to please God should not be concerned with what others ask of him or what they say. He should have God in mind and work for God regardless of what others say. Even good work might face opposition. You should only be concerned with your own work and that it should be good and should please God. Once you think of these matters, then God will help you and correct your mistakes. If universities are put right then the country would be put right. I pray for you. May God support you and grant you success. Peace on you all.

Khomeyni Meets With Jannati, Other Officials

LD151206 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Jannati, one of the judiciary members of the Council of Guardians as well as the official in charge of the Supreme Publicity Council, was received by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran this morning.

Also, in a separate meeting, Salek, the deputy of the Islamic Revolution Committee, was received by Imam Khomeyni this morning. He was accompanied by all the commanders of the nationwide committees and some committee officials.

In the course of the meeting, Salek briefed Imam Khomeyni on the activities and selfless efforts of the committees. The imam of the umma, having expressed his appreciation to all the Islamic Revolution Guards and the officials of the Islamic Revolution committee, prayed for them.

Cabinet Session Discusses Chemical Arms, Lebanon

LD150843 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] According to the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi said at yesterday's Cabinet meeting: All the world should bear witness that we have once again warned against the use of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime against the combatants of Islam.

But, unfortunately, the Iraqi regime has paid no attention to this issue. Today we have the power to give a crushing reply to these violations of human rights.

At this session, Foreign Minister Velayati discussed and analyzed the recent developments in Lebanon and praised the resistance put up by the Lebanese Muslim revolutionaries.

He said: Simultaneously with the withdrawal of its forces from southern Lebanon, the Zionist regime has attempted new conspiracies and crimes that have been foiled because of the steadfastness and the resistance of the faithful Muslim forces of Lebanon.

He added: The courage and martyrdom of several Lebanese men and women during the past few weeks which have resulted in the killing of a number of Zionist forces confirms this point.

Velayati Heads Delegation to Geneva Talks

LD151026 Tehran IRNA in English 1012 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 15, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, heading a high-ranking delegation, left Tehran for Geneva Monday morning to attend the annual session of disarmament conference.

Speaking to IRNA at the airport prior to his departure, he said the Iranian delegation will stress the prohibition of deploying banned arms including chemical weapons.

"This conference is very important in view of the problems created for the Third World countries in particular and the world in general by satanic arms race," he said.

He further stressed that the deployment of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime which was repeated recently was against all international conventions and rules.

"It is our duty to stand in the face of evil deeds in the world and one of the greatest evils has been the development and expansion of destructive weapons against humanity," Velayati concluded.

Gendermerie Chief Sohrabi Visits Bushehr

GF151710 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Iran's chief of Gendermerie, Colonel Sohrabi, arrived in Bushehr this morning to review the issues and problems of the area's gendermerie and also to review the state of readiness of the personnel in this region.

According to the Central News Unit, he was welcomed at Bushehr airport by various officials and local military and security personnel. He then visited the coastal battalion and a machinery repair center of the gendermerie. He reviewed the general state of readiness of all these units.

Charge, Kuwaiti Official Discuss Relations

LD151657 Tehran IRNA in English 1520 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 15, IRNA — The Iranian charge d'affaires to Kuwait Mohammad Reza Baqeri today met and conferred with the speaker of Kuwait's National Assembly, Ahmad 'abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'dun and Vice Speaker Salih Yusuf al-Fadalah in separate meetings in Kuwait.

In his talks with the Iranian charge d'affaires the assembly's vice speaker lauded the Islamic Revolution and noted that the Persian Gulf states should respect the Islamic Revolution and that likewise the Islamic Republic should demonstrate her good will to them.

The Iranian charge d'affaires said to the Kuwait official that Iran's foreign policy is based also on mutual respect and noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries. He called on the Kuwaiti official to do everything for improvement of relations between Iran and Kuwait.

Clandestine Radios on Demonstrations in Tehran

Voice of Mojahedin-e Khalq

GF160737 (Clandestine) Voice of Mojahedin-e Khalq in Persian 1730 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Unatrributed commentary]

[Text] Struggling compatriots: The 10,000-strong demonstrations by the people of 13th Aban District of Tehran, and other demonstrations by the people of various cities of our homeland, are a crushing blow to all the warmongering cries of the gang of Khomeyni who, irrespective of the death and wounding of 60,000 in the fronts in the last 10 days of last year [10-20 March] and the death and wounding of nearly 40,000 innocent people in various cities of our homeland, still wish to fan the fire and do not wish to stop the war.

The imposter Khomeyni, in his last speech on 4 April, again said that he will continue the war until the end, also claiming that everyone in Iran, from bazaaris to farmers, support the continuation of the war. Such (?hateful) claims were heard while the entire country and especially those cities being bombed were in turmoil and hatred for the anti-popular and disruptive war of Khomeyni, a war that was escalating in each direction. (?Obviously) insisting on the continuation of the war is nothing but clear defiance of the wishes of the peace-loving people of Iran. As we said, last Wednesday afternoon [passage indistinct].

(?Those who bear the real responsibility) for all the calamities that have immersed the people of our homeland in mourning note that every time there is an anti-war demonstration there is a show of hatred for the Khomeyni regime. The slogan, "Death to Khomeyni," has been twinned with the slogan, "Peace and freedom."

The demonstrations by the people of 13th Aban and Naziabad Districts again showed the very good social readiness for objections to and active resistance against the war and Khomeyni's warmongering.

It mobilized thousands under the slogans, "Death to Khomeyni" and "Peace and freedom." This is the potential (?created by a number of activists) and stored in the depths of the society within thousands of people by opposing the war and hating the Khomeyni regime. Under favorable conditions this will erupt like an immense volcano. The bloody demonstrations by the people of south Tehran, although it was not the first example of anti-war popular demonstrations in the recent weeks, [words indistinct]. From its highly political aspect it was the harbinger of the (?opposition movement). Compared with the expanding social objections of the second half of last year which culminated in examples such as the Amjadiyeh demonstrations, this should be valued more highly.

It can be considered a shining example of the support for the peaceful policies of the Mojahedin and a turning point in the

activities of the masses (?against the Khomeyni regime). When a massive number of burdensome problems have engulfed the life of the masses and when unemployment, destruction, and suffocation is at its height [words indistinct].

Irrespective of this the leaders of the regime continue to insist on the continuation of their destructive war. In the Friday show of this week, Khamene'i clearly announced that the regime continues to insist on its warmongering position and that the war with Iraq will continue. Earlier on all of the lackies of the regime [words indistinct] refering to their adventurism at the fronts and defending it as one of their rights which must continue.

The speaker for Khomeyni's Majlis, a week after the revelation of the statistics of the immense losses of the regime at the fronts, shamelessly stated that the main operations are yet to come and that the war will continue on this earth.

Radio Iran Report

GF151248 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Iranians are fighting against a monster. After 6 years of patience and coordination to achieve national unity the effort has now borne fruit. This is why the protest cry of the war-stricken people in southern Tehran against the Khomeyni regime has badly shaken Tehran. The cry was also heard in Khorramabad and Ahvaz, Tabriz and Kermanshah [Bakhtaran].

The deadly slogan, "Death to Khomeyni," is gaining such momentum that it is like an earthquake of death and destruction to the regime's backbone.

The inability of the Islamic regime to defend the country's airspace and maritime borders and the indifference of the mullahs towards Iranians' leaves no doubt that the Khomeyni regime is on the way down. The Iranians, in defense of their lives and their homeland, see as the only way out a coordinated, organized uprising, and there is no doubt that within the next few weeks the Iranian people will start the definitive struggle to topple the regime. Eventually this will spread over the entire nation.

While the bombing of towns has crushed Iranian lives under the concrete rubble of the mullahs' incompetence, Shaykh Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri has announced that from now on women have to sleep with full Islamic clothing because the Hezbollahi rescue workers have seen some women in bed without proper Islamic clothing while digging out bodies in order to save the survivors of bombings which are the results of Khomeyni's war-mongerings. Seeing the women in such a state has upset the rescue workers.

To show this slow death, what better proof than the explosion 3 weeks ago during the so-called Friday prayers in Tehran University at the hands of a young man who had been maimed in the war. Journalists reported that despite the lies spread by the regime to hide the truth behind the explosion, it is known that the blast was the cry of protest of a youth who had lost both his legs in the untechnical and insane attacks in the marshlands of Al-Hawizah. This youth, placing his full trust in God and Islam and in defense of his homeland, lost both his legs. He was sure that the mullahs are nothing but tricksters and liars and are sacrificing the country's youth for the continuation of their cruel, inhuman and evil rule, and so undertook the explosion at the Friday prayers.

KEYHAN on 'Widespread National Opposition'

GF150841 London KEYHAN in Persian 11 Apr 85 p 6

[Editorial: "What is Going on in Mazandaran"]

[Text] The Islamic Republic, like other rightist totalitarian regimes, is trying to portray its opposition solely as "leftist mini-groups". In recent months the ayatollahs have taken up the playing of a new instrument by portraying their shaky regime as a barrier against communism. In other words, a regime that is not even capable of saving itself claims to be responsible for the safety of the region against a communist onslaught.

During this month the Islamic regime has been faced with widespread and organized mass opposition in Mazandaran Province, and especially in Amol.

The situation in the region is so critical that three key Islamic ministers — the minister of security, Mohammad Reyshahri, the minister of the interior, 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri, and the minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, Mohsen Rafiqdust — have spent many days in Amol. The minister of security spent more than one week in Amol.

According to unconfirmed but possibly reliable reports, thousands have been arrested in Mazandaran. The regime claims to be faced with a communist plot. However, the truth is that there is no communist plot in Mazandaran, nor is there any room for "mini-groups". A communism whose leaders have become pious, and religious figures who recite prayers on Islamic television no longer are of any value in Iran. The "mini-groups" were also thin branches of the ayatollahs' revolution and their recent severing from the trunk has not resulted in their finding support among the people.

The claims of the Islamic government about the "danger of communism" are only to scare Western governments, and no doubt this will have no result. Today everyone is aware that the republic of the ayatollah is faced with widespread national opposition and is considered heresy by the majority of the Iranian nation. The Islamic Government that was considered the tractor of the communists cannot now be considered a dam against it. It is not only in Mazandaran that the spontaneous opposition by the people has created problems for the Islamic regime. Something is taking shape across the country.

Joint Staff Command Issues Communique No 2,074

LD151650 Tehran IRNA in English 1544 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 15, IRNA — Joint Staff military communique number 2074 published here today said sporadic artillery duels continued between Iran's Muslim combatants and the Iraqi troops in the western and southern battlefronts on Sunday, the Iraqis sustaining damages and casualties.

On Sunday the Iranian forces checked enemy operations in Chuman-Mostafa, Varaz, Darband and enemy positions overlooking the Iranian town of Sardasht, in the southwestern fronts. Artillery battles raged heavier in Mehran and Farrokhabad in the western fronts where the Iraqi forces sustained material damages and human losses.

Elsewhere in the western fronts on Sunday the Iranian troops levelled at least 10 artillery emplacements and observation posts, one mortar launcher, and also set ablaze one munitions depot of the enemy troops.

In the southern fronts Iran's Muslim combatants fortified their positions on Sunday, sporadically pounded enemy defence lines. Artillery battles raged heavier in and near Eynkhosh, Chazzabeh, and Kushk.

In Bayat area in the southern fronts Iran's gendarmerie gunners set ablaze parts of enemy defence lines, and levelling at least four artillery emplacements and observation posts, and one Army truck killing or wounding a number of enemy personnel.

Chemical Arms Used

LD151757 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Excerpt] According to the Joint Staff report, at 0106 and 1140 yesterday morning the Iraqi regime used chemical shells in two fronts in the southern region, as the result of which a number of our fighters were injured.

Chemical Attack Victims Leave for Treatment

LD150919 Tehran IRNA in English 0905 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 15, IRNA — A group of 17 Islamic combatants afflicted by toxic chemicals used by the Iraqi regime in warfronts, left for West Germany, France, Belgium and Britain Monday morning to receive medical treatment. They are the fourth group being sent abroad for treatment since late March.

A number of Iranian forces who were severely affected by chemical weapons deployed by the Iraqi regime in the worfronts, have been martyred due to severe injuries.

The Iraqi regime, in violation of international conventions, has repeatedly deployed chemical weapons against the Iranian forces and has defied all internationally-recognised laws and appeals by the United Nations to stop such practices.

Soviets Prepare Drive in DRA's Samangan Province

LD151342 Tehran IRNA in English 1332 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] New Delhi, April 15, IRNA — Afghan mujahidin inflicted heavy casualties on Soviet troops when they attacked their base 30 klm north of Kabul last week, Afghan sources here said. They quoted eye witnesses as saying that Soviet occupation Army moved its dead and wounded to the capital after the battle.

Meanwhile reports from north Afghanistan said Soviet Army is massing troops in the Samangan Province in order to attack the city of Khalam. Afghan resistance groups have controlled the city since 1980.

In a ten day battle near Khalam recently the Soviets suffered large number of casualties and lost some of their armored units. Hundreds of civilians died when Soviet force planes bombarded the city.

Iraqi Revolutionaries Attack Al-Nasiriyah Police

LD151528 Tehran IRNA in English 1503 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 15, IRNA — Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries last week, attacked a joint base of the so-called Iraqi popular and police forces in Al-Nasiriyah, inflicting some casualties. A non-commissioned officer, two security officials and two soldiers were killed and scores of other state agents were wounded.

In this successful attack against what has been termed as one of the most important centers in Iraq, one of the Muslim revolutionaries was also martyred and another was seriously wounded.

Soon after the attack, state reinforcements surrounded the place and conducted a search for the Muslim revolutionaries.

KEYHAN on Prime Minister Musavi's 'Resignation'

GF141120 London KEYHAN in Persian 4 Apr 85 p 1

[Text] Tehran, KEYHAN News Service — Reliable sources in the government confirmed that last week Mir Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister, presented his resignation to President 'Ali Khamene'i, announcing his inability to face the present problems.

Prior to this, two ministers — State Minister Banki and Nezhadhoseyniyan, minister for roads and transport — resigned from their posts and their resignations were accepted. However, not only was Musavi's resignation not accepted, but Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president, considers Musavi's resignation as a failure for his own group which is confronted by Hashemi-Rafsanjani's group, and has asked Musavi to countinue with his work.

The reason for Mir Hoseyn Musavi's resignation is mainly due to the ruined financial and economic situation. The resignations of Banki and Nezhadhoseynian were to a great extent related to the same reason. The Majlis had in principle canceled the budget for the Ministry of Roads and Transport and also the arranged budget for Banki, state minister in charge of plan and budget organizations. Mir Hoseyn Musavi is not only facing problems in the field of development, but also in meeting daily expenses.

Up to now he has been unable to pay the salaries of a large number of government employees for February. The end of year bonus for employees that was supposed to have been a gold coin has yet to be paid, and there is no possibility of a yearend bonus being paid unless gold coins once again are sold at free market

prices and like last year the price difference is used to pay the bonous for employees.

In order to maintain current costs, Mir Hoseyn Musavi has foreseen the withdrawal of subsidies from goods and increases in taxes and oil prices, but the Majlis and Hashemi-Rafsanjani's supporters have opposed it just because they disagree with the government.

Apart from economic considerations, the government's weakness in dealing with bombings in Tehran and other cities, and failures at the war fronts due to the mistakes made by the Revolution Guards, are each in themselves a reason for the government to express weakness in solving the problems, and thus forced Musavi to resign from the top post of the Islamic government. However, informed sources have said that Khamene'i, who as president of the Islamic Republic is also the head of the Supreme Defense Council and the Friday imam of Tehran, considers the resignation of Musavi as the loss of his most important pawn in the confrontation with the opposition. What is certain is that Musavi will not be able to carry out his work much longer. Apparently the reason he is remaining in his post is not only through pressure from Khamene'i, but also because of Ayatollah Khomeyni's advice, who did not consider his resignation to be wise at this time.

Although Musavi's resignation has not been accepted, 'Ali Akbar Velayati has been named as a successor. This is due to his efforts to bring about peace. 'Ali Akbar Velayati at present is closer to Hashemi-Rafsanjani's group than Khamene'i and for this reason he presents all his reports to the speaker of the Majlis rather than the president or the prime minister.

Radio Nejat-e Iran Report

GF141900 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Text] We begin this newscast with rumors of the collapse of the Mir Hoseyn Musavi Cabinet shortly.

Informed diplomatic sources in the capital once again reported that the Mir Hoseyn Musavi government is on the verge of collapse. According to one of the Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondents in Tehran, following the resignation of Banki, the regime's planning and budget minister, his replacement has also requested Mir Hoseyn Musavi's consent to resign.

According to our correspondent, the formulation of the 1985 development budget which has been examined, discussed and analyzed in detail in Radio Nejat-e Iran's economic commentary during the past few weeks, is the reason for the paralysis in most of the work of the regime's ministry, although the Majlis of Khomeyni's Islam had approved the plan for the new year.

It is interesting that Hashemi-Rafsanjani [words indistinct] had stated in an interview that two-thirds of the budget would be allocated to the war and purchase of arms and that Iran has no other choice. We know that the work of reconstruction and development has been suspended.

Fresh taxes and new levies on gasoline, oil, and other essential items of consumption by the people will be announced in the month of Ordibehesht, [21 April-21 May]. As a result the back-breaking brunt of high prices will spiral many times more.

In any case, although the work of the regime's budget has not been completed, bills of implementing the budget as though complete and with (?amendments) have been submitted to Khomeyni's Islamic Majlis which will give the ministers of the Cabinet's pseudoclergy a [words indistinct].

It is for this reason that there are rumors in Tehran that Hadi-Nezhadhoseynian, the roads and transportation minister, and Gharazi, the oil minister of the occupied regime, have submitted their resignations to the Khomeyni government's prime minister. With the resignation of three of the Cabinet ministers and the differences in the (?bazaar) with the government, the Majlis and the government, [words indistinct] point to the collapse of the Musavi Cabinet in the near future.